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The Story of Abraham Lincoln's Romance

One of the Rarest and Most
Exquisite Love Stories in History



The Soul of Ann Rutledge

By BERNIE BABCOCK

Frontispiece.

2.60
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Postage Extra.

THE story of Abraham Lincoln's romantic attachment for Ann Rutledge and its moulding power on his after-life is now for the first time adequately told in this remarkable novel.

WHO WAS ANN RUTLEDGE?

In the well-known drama of Abraham Lincoln's life, how is it we know so little of the part played by this lovely young girl? That she did play an important part, we have Lincoln's own word to prove, and that her influence was a lasting one, there is little doubt.

Ann Rutledge, great-granddaughter of a signer of the Declaration of Independence, inherited beauty to a notable degree; a rare gift of song, and an unusual endowment of mind. What wonder that she seemed desirable to our greatest American, in his first flower of enthusiasm, with profound capacity for true and devoted love?

Historical fact is the basis of this beautiful story. New Salem was in transition from rude pioneer days to a fully developed civilization in 1831. Mrs. Babcock gives us a picture of the community, its characteristic activities, amusements and speech, with scenes of a racy humor indigenous to America, and of the type Lincoln himself loved. Here he kept store and studied law, and the story of his struggle for an education, his moral and religious development, and his deep love for sweet Ann Rutledge, is told with unmistakable sincerity and truth.

In an age when the cynical profess disbelief in any higher or more lasting love between men and women than the mating instinct of animals, when the death of millions of the world's best men has brought into fresh insistence the age-long question, "If a man die shall he live again?" the true story of Abraham Lincoln's master passion for a woman, and his calm and unshakable faith in immortality, has fresh interest and the value and authority attaching to his lofty character.

A Letter from

SIR GILBERT PARKER,

London, England

"THE SOUL OF ANN RUTLEDGE came yesterday and I've read it through with the deepest interest. I predict for this book a big popularity in the United States. It is sentimental, but it is *human*, and its sketches of character throughout the book are admirable. It is a good picture of life in the backwoods of America in the days when Lincoln lived. The character of Ann is drawn with great charm and delicacy and Lincoln is seen at his best. I hope and believe that the book will have a prodigious sale. It overcomes one. I scarcely know why. I wonder if it is the infinite interest one feels in the character of Lincoln, of whom I've always been an intense admirer. It stifles all criticism."

High Praise from American Reviewers

NEW YORK TIMES

"The dominating figure of Lincoln is impressive. . . . We are made to feel that here is indeed a man destined for great and splendid things. His ex-

perience as railsplitter, storekeeper, and postmaster are recounted. . . Intermingled with this is the idyl of his love for sweet, golden-haired Ann Rutledge. . . . The book is better worth while than are the majority of those which profess to portray some outstanding historical figure."

PHILADELPHIA NORTH AMERICAN

"Graphic word pictures of the community, its characteristic activities, amusements, and speech. Many of the scenes in the tale are of a racy humor indigenous to America and the period of the story. There is a sincerity thruout that is in keeping with the subject, and the humor is of the type Lincoln himself loved. . . The devotion of Lincoln to this rarely gifted woman . . . is a fine inspiring idyl of pioneer days."

AMERICAN REVIEW OF REVIEWS

"It is a graceful, moving story, that touches the surface of Lincoln's affection and sorrow delicately, as if more driving realism would be sacrilege."

BOSTON HERALD

"The book makes quick appeal. The sweetness and quaint humor of Lincoln are felt, and underlying strength that was the nation's rock of refuge in bitter need. We are content to believe him truly depicted."

BOSTON POST

"Abraham Lincoln and Ann Rutledge stand out sharply, and actual events of the future President's struggling years are capably mingled with romance. It is an attractive and sympathetic story."

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